

KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION POTENTIAL 2012 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Items for Consideration

Compulsory School Attendance

Amend KRS 159.010 to raise the compulsory school age for attendance from 16 to 18.

Under the current law, students in Kentucky are eligible to leave school, before graduating, at the age or 16. This proposed change will raise compulsory school age to 18. This statutory change will be supported by many initiatives being undertaken by the department and local districts through the dropout prevention grants as well as through other means. An estimated 6,500 Kentucky students drop out of grades 9-12 each year. Many programs exist to support retaining these students including access to dual credit, middle college, career learning (CTE), credit recovery and alternative education programs.

Innovation

Amend and add new sections to the Kentucky Revised Statutes.

Expand current and craft new statutes to provide additional flexibility for districts in organizing schools and instructional programs to meet the needs of students. There are several tools to support innovative pathways to graduation including AdvanceKY, Alternative Programming, Early/Middle College, Competency-Based Graduation, Board Examination Systems, Advanced/Dual Credit, and Digital Learning.

Preschool Funding

Amend KRS 157.226 to adjust the preschool funding formula.

The current formula is based on the December 1 count of the previous year (December 1, 2009) for each preschool funding category: at-risk, speech, developmental delay, and severe. Additional funds from a supplemental 3s count (three-year-olds with disabilities) are included in each district's allocation. Districts whose enrollments decreased more than five percent from the last two December 1 counts receive a negative funding adjustment and districts whose enrollment increased by more than five percent receive a growth adjustment. By removing the five percent negative and positive (growth) adjustments, funding is stabilized for the districts and they can plan decisions on more current data.

Career and Technology Education

Amend and add new sections to the Kentucky Revised Statutes.

The Transforming Education in Kentucky (TEK) Task Force provided numerous recommendations including improving prospects for students in career and technology education programs. The Career and Technical Education Steering Committee has released a draft report with recommendations centered on streamlining operations of the state and local centers as well as on improving and aligning curriculum, developing programs and professional development.